



September 12, 2014

To (via email): Pasadena Mayor and City Council

Re: Proposals for park development on the Desiderio site

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

The West Pasadena Residents' Association, founded in 1962, is dedicated to maintaining the character and integrity of our neighborhoods and enhancing the quality of life in West Pasadena and throughout the City of Pasadena.

Therefore, we support the staff recommendation for a neighborhood park at Desiderio Army Reserve Center. This new park will be in the heart of the neighborhood served by the WPRA and we are deeply concerned by the 4-3 vote of the Planning Commission to expand the park to include restrooms and other amenities not consistent with the neighborhood park concept.

WPRA strongly opposes the recommendation made by four members of the planning commission.

The city park, as described in planning documents, should be "a neighborhood park characterized as a passive retreat for individuals, families with small children, walkers, and visitors to the Lower Arroyo. This park is not intended to accommodate large groups or organized sports activities." (DEIR page 3) It should also be noted that public restrooms and ample parking are already available a short walk away from Desiderio at Brookside Park adjacent to the Aquatic Center.

WPRA supports the city staff's recommendation for a neighborhood park at Desiderio Army Reserve Center and urges you to approve the project recommended by the staff, without restrooms and additional parking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Baum", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Geoffrey Baum
President, West Pasadena Residents' Association

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